



USAID-COMPETE PARTNER FUNDING SUPPORT TO EAGC

QUARTERLY REPORT OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2011

A. INTRODUCTION

This report from Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) is for the period of 4th quarter 2011 (October to December 2011) covering the achievements under USAID-COMPETE funding support to EAGC. The Grant is aimed at strengthening institutional coordination and regional structured grain trading system through integrated regional market information systems, policy and reduced barriers to trade.

The following activities were implemented in the said period:

1. Regional and Country Office Operations
2. Review of EAGC Strategic Business Plan
3. 2nd STS TOT workshop in Arusha, Tanzania
4. RATIN overhaul and upgrade meeting
5. MIS Validation Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya
6. Monitors' Recruitment in Burundi
7. Annual Agribusiness Fairs
8. Biannual African Grain Trade Summit

B. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

a) Regional and Country Office Operations

Through the funding from USAID-COMPETE, the EAGC offices in Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya were operational. EAGC intensified its membership recruitment drive. The membership now stands at 92.

EAGC recruited 6 new members in the 4th quarter namely:

- (i) East Africa Malting Ltd-Kenya
- (ii) aBi Trust-Uganda
- (iii) Smith & Bolton-Uganda
- (iv) Victoria Seed Ltd-Uganda
- (v) Kapchorwa Commercial Farmers-Uganda

(vi) Nile Breweries-Uganda

b) Review of EAGC Strategic Business Plan

EAGC Board of Directors and Management held a Planning Retreat on 10th -11th November 2011 in Mombasa. The aim of the retreat was to;

- (i) Review the EAGC's successes and challenges to date in comparison with the current Strategic Business Plan (2008-12).
- (ii) Refresh the EAGC's Vision , Values, Mandate , Strategic Goals and Strategic Imperatives for the next five years (2013-17)

The outputs of this meeting formed the basis of the developing the new 5-year Strategic Business Plan for EAGC.

C. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

a) Structured Trading Systems (STS)

After EAGC conducted the national-level Training of Trainers (ToT) program on STS in Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, the need to review the courses offered arose. A team from EAGC and USAID-COMPETE met on 24th October 2011 to review the STS ToT Programs. It was recommended that modules for Intermediate and Advanced courses be introduced. The concluded trainings were considered as Preliminary Training Courses. Those who undertook Preliminary Courses will choose the specific areas of their interest to be trained at the Intermediate level then seat for an examination. Those who will pass will undertake further training at advanced level.

STS TOT workshop in Arusha, Tanzania

The 2nd Training of Trainers (ToT) program on STS for Northern Tanzania was held in Arusha on the 24th and 25th November 2011. This was a follow up to the Dar es Salaam TOT held on 28th June 2011, which resulted to formation of five (5) training clusters representing Southern Highlands, Western, Eastern, Lake, Central and Northern Zones of Tanzania. The Northern Zone training Cluster was very supporting in identifying the officers from different organizations mainly from the Ministry of Agriculture and Famer Organizations. The trainees were from Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Tanga regions of the Tanzania Northern Zone.

This TOT workshop was conducted in a different way. The training program stretched for 2 days and the trainees were examined to assess the understanding. A study tour was also part of the program where the trainees visited a milling plant and they were taken through the practical aspects of grain receiving procedures, sampling and testing for quality check, storage, processing, distribution and the challenges in grain trade. A total of 31 officers were trained and examined. Out of 31 trainees, 18 passed to the next level of training (Intermediate Course) having scored 40% pass mark or above.



(L) One of the trainees receiving certificate and a packet of maize flour from Mr. David Tuhoje and Mr. Andy Dale (EAGC Directors – Tanzania) and Mr. Gerald Masila (holding the certificates). (R) A section of workshop participants.

During the workshop, 3 training were formed clusters according to regions (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Tanga). To ensure that the knowledge is cascaded to the lower level and reach the farmers, each training cluster developed the actions plans. The plans focused on three key issues that support the farmers:

- (i) Establish aggregation centres for farmers ,mobilize group marketing and create market linkages
- (ii) Strengthening /forming farmer groups
- (iii) Training on Structured training Systems

The EAGC office in Arusha will be responsible for monitoring the execution of actions plans and providing the backstopping.



MR. Andy dale (MD New Boogaloo) demonstrates to trainees how a Moisture Analyzer works



A Visit to New Boogaloo Milling Plant

b) Market Information Systems

RATIN overhaul and upgrade meeting

EAGC held a RATIN Review and Upgrade process on 24th and 25th October 2011, in Naivasha. The participants included the EAGC technical team, USAID COMPETE Staples Food Technical Team, MIS experts from the University of Nairobi, the IT Consultants who will support the process, EAGC Board Members, and an MIS expert from FAO.

The discussions were guided to agreed on the design and structure of the NEW RATIN Process, What the new RATIN will do, What it will address, and how we can achieve the process. The team also critically addressed the sustainability of the new RATIN. At the end of the two day workshop, the team agreed on a clear roadmap of the NEW RATIN process, and timelines on how the process will be achieved.



A section of participants who attended the RATIN workshop

MIS Validation Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya

The workshop was the fifth forum aimed at coming with the harmonized data collection methodologies that can be uniformly used across the Eastern African region. The two day workshop took place in Nairobi and brought together representative from various organizations across the region. The workshop took place on November 14 and 15, 2011.

The workshop led to participants' a validation of Data Collection Methodology Protocol that will be used across the region.



One of the MIS teams during the breakout session

Monitors' Recruitment in Burundi

The recruitment of monitors took place between November 25 and 30, 2011. Two additional markets -Kayanza and Ngozi in Burundi will be monitored. With the recruitment, Burundi's monitoring team is now more strengthened with all the four leading markets now covered.

c) Grain Value Chain Stakeholder Capacity Built

Annual Agribusiness Fairs

Tanzania

Preparations for the Annual Agribusiness Fair 2012 in Tanzania slated for 8th and 9th June 2012 in Arusha is ongoing. The Fair will be organized jointly by EAGC and Selian Agricultural Research Institute (SARI). EAGC recruited a Project Assistant and the Event Organizer to support in organizing the Fair. A memorandum of understanding between EAGC and SARI was signed on 21st October 2011.



EAGC-SARI MOU signing ceremony

In November, a Host Country Committee for the Agribusiness Fair was constituted and its TOR drafted. The Event Manager was also identified and recruited.

The theme of the fair is- ***“Promoting Agribusiness for economic development prosperity “
“Kuimarisha kilimo biashara kwa ufanisi na maendeleo”***. This was discussed and confirmed during the ABF committee on 23rd Nov.2011.

Uganda

In Uganda, EAGC is sought partnership with Ngetta Zonal Agricultural Research & Development Institute (NGEZARDI). EAGC visited the Ngetta Zonal Agricultural Research & Development Institute (NGEZARDI) for survey of possible venue for the Agribusiness Fair in Lira. The institute has a good venue for hosting the event. They have an area (about 2 acres) suitable for exhibition. The institute has continually been setting up crops demonstration plots for horticultural crops, maize, rice, fruits trees and so forth.

NGEZARDI welcomed the idea of conducting the Fair together since they had already prepared to conduct the annual farmers' field day in July 2011 where farmers and exhibitors participated. The Fair is scheduled to take place on **21st and 22nd June 2012**. The proposed theme for the Fair is- ***"Increasing Food Security and household incomes through enhancing access to markets"***

Two (2) host country committees were formed in Lira and Kampala. Request for Proposals (RFP) for Event Management were developed and circulated.

A draft MOU has been drafted and sent to NGEZARDI for review.

- **Biannual African Grain Trade Summit**

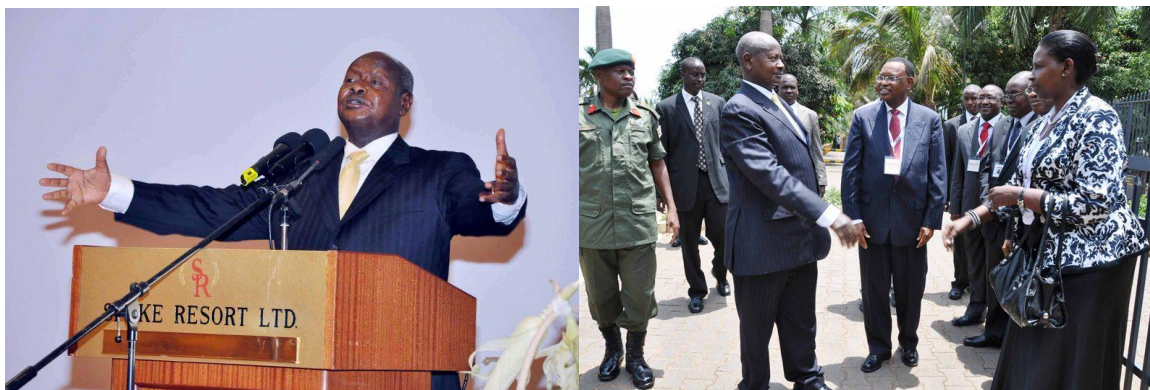
The 4th AGTS was held on 13th and 14th October at the Speke Resort in Munyonyo. It was opened by H.E The President of the Republic of Uganda, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni with the Minister of Agriculture, Animal industry and Fisheries, Hon Tess Bucyanayandi in attendance. In his address the President commended the EAGC for having taken the initiative to hold such a summit and called upon delegates to find ways that small holder farmers can practice profitable farming on their small pieces of land. He also urged delegates to embrace the idea of value addition and stop exporting grains as raw material for others.

The 2-day high profile Summit, whose theme was *"Accelerating Growth in Grain Trade; Opportunities for strategic partnerships and investments"* was attended by 130 delegates from all over the world. Farmers, traders, processors, bankers, collateral managers, development partners and all other stakeholders in the grain value chain attended.

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives; Hon Amelia Kyambadde with the minister of State for Agriculture in attendance, closed the summit. In her remarks, she too commended EAGC on the successful summit and reiterated the Ministry and the government of Uganda's commitment to agriculture. She made a presentation which she pointed out, among others, her ministry's plan to construct silos as one of the measures to improve on grain storage and therefore grain trade in the country.

During the summit too, EAGC and UCE signed MOU on WRS in which EAGC would play a major role in promoting the system in Uganda.





Some scenes of the 4th AGTS